

Amendment 002 to DACA87-00-Q-005
Responses to RFO Questions

Question 1. The submittal requirements include a list of "all near-surface digital geophysical mapping ... within the last 3 years". This list would be quite voluminous. Would it be acceptable to limit the list to UXO projects only?

Answer: Yes. However, the government reserves the right to request information on non-UXO projects, as needed.

Question 2. Item (3) in the submittal requirements is "A QA/QC Plan for geophysical surveying for UXO". Such a plan would again be quite voluminous. Would it be acceptable to submit a table of contents for the plan?

Answer: No. Change this item to QA/QC processes/procedures. This item is meant to be a discussion of QA/QC processes and procedures, not a detailed, voluminous plan.

Question 3. We have several types of geophysical survey systems to offer, with several platforms. These systems have very different operational costs. Can we add additional CLIN numbers to accommodate these systems? If not, what mechanism can be used to allow for situations calling for systems with different operational costs?

Answer: Yes, Sub-CLINs shall be added for each type of system quoted.

Question 4. Are the bid costs for Field Survey Costs to include costs for positioning systems, or should these be bid separately? In either case, are GPS or other high-precision positioning systems required for all surveys, or can wheel encoder/waypoint positioning be used in some cases? If the latter is the case, what mechanism should be used for distinguishing pricing for different location systems? GPS will be much more expensive than, say, wheel encoder systems and will impact the price significantly.

Answer: 1) The costs for field surveys include positioning systems.
2) GPS may not be needed or applicable in all situations. The quoter should determine which positioning systems may be needed.
3) Sub-CLINs should be added for each combination of geophysical survey system and positioning system the quoter anticipates using.

Question 5. For CLIN Number 001 (Mobilization/Demobilization Costs) and CLIN Number 004 (Travel), the costs will depend strongly on the location and type of survey. Since the RFQ states that the sites may be OCONUS, the costs will be highly variable. What mechanism should be used to distinguish the costs by geographical area and survey type? Also, can we assume that time constraints will not be so severe that we will need to mobilize for more than one project simultaneously, or more than one survey crew and system per project?

Answer: 1) CLIN 004, Travel should include personnel mobilization/demobilization costs. CLIN 004 should not be priced at this time. This CLIN will be determined on a task order basis.

2) CLIN 001 should include mob/demob costs for equipment, including selection, checks, and shipping. Shipping costs may vary somewhat and should be only an incidental consideration in pricing these CLINs. Unusual shipping costs will be handled on a task order basis under the new subcontracting CLIN (see Question #18). Again, sub-CLINs may be added for mob/demob costs for various types of equipment.

3) This last assumption is incorrect. There may definitely be times when more than one project is running simultaneously and/or more than one survey crew and system is required.

Question 6. For Geophysical Processing and Documentation: please clarify the meanings of "Standard" and "Advanced Geophysical Processing and Documentation". Also, in CLIN Numbers 003b and 003c, what grid size should be assumed for the "Grid"? Data volume will depend strongly on this parameter.

Answer: 1) The quoter shall define what their proposed "Standard" and "Advanced" geophysical processing and documentation are. The word "standard" means conventional or customary as applied to traditional products. "Advanced" means extra effort, complexity, sophistication, or refinement is used to increase discrimination capability.

2) The units listed under 003b and c should be changed to "grid acre" in the RFQ.

Question 7. For CLIN Numbers 002d and 002g, what will be the maximum number of anomalies to be reacquired per acre or per mile, respectively?

Answer: This CLIN is priced per target anomaly based on a minimum of 40 target anomalies per acre or 20 per linear mile. The maximum number of target anomalies to be reacquired is 400 per acre or 200 per linear mile. Quoters should use their best engineering judgement in pricing this CLIN.

NOTE: For any number of target anomalies less than 40 per acre or 20 per linear mile, the cost of reacquisition should be included in the field survey costs.

Question 8. For CLIN Numbers 005g and 005h, the cost of installing Geophysical Prove-out Grids and Test Strips will be dependent on the terrain (soil and rock type, tree cover, slope of site, etc.), the type of expected ordnance, the depth of burial, and the size of the Prove-out Grid or Test Strip. Please clarify these issues.

Answer: The quoter has correctly identified potential variations, however, these variations should not cause significant cost variances in Prove-out grids and Test Strips. During performance, the government and contractor will work together to select sites that minimize variations. The quoter should use best engineering judgement in pricing these CLINs and define their basis for the cost in the response to the RFQ.

Question 9. In addition, please confirm that the submittal is due in Huntsville at 3 PM local time on January 21.

Answer: Yes. The due date and time are 21 January 2000 at 3:00 CST.

Question 10. Is there any documentation on the definitions of Vegetation, such as Heavily Wooded, etc. If so, could you give me the reference to it.

Answer: There is no formal documentation. To aid quoters in pricing, the following should be noted:

Open, Sparcely Wooded – mostly open terrain, accessible to vehicles

Moderately Wooded – may require mixed geophysical techniques and/or positioning systems

Heavily Wooded – requires man-portable systems

Question 11. Could you advise whether the Form 254 is suitable documentation of past performance or should it be in more detail.

Answer: Any form is acceptable as long as it includes all the information requested in the RFQ. If quoters use the SF 254 and SF 255, extraneous pages or information should be deleted so as to ensure that the quoter stays within the RFQ page limitation.

Question 12. In regard to the key personnel qualifications etc., would the Form 255 item 7 (titled Brief Resume of Key Persons, Specialists, and Individual Consultants Anticipated for this Project) be suitable?

Answer: Any form is acceptable as long as it includes all the information requested in the RFQ. If quoters use the SF 254 and SF 255, extraneous pages or information should be deleted so as to ensure that the quoter stays within the RFQ page limitation.

Question 13. Would these forms be included in the 30 pages for the Proposal or would they be included in the Representations and Certifications?

Answer: These forms would be included in the new 40-page limit.

Question 14. Will you consider increasing the page limitation?

Answer: Yes. The page limitation has been increased to 40 pages.

Question 15. Please confirm the number of copies to be submitted.

Answer: The quoter shall submit 1 original and 5 copies of their complete response to the RFQ.

Question 16. The quoter anticipates using a couple of 11" x 17" pages for project listing; does this size paper count as one or two pages?

Answer: This size paper will count as one page and may only be used for project listings under past performance.

Question 17. Please advise whether the Corp is working in feet or meters? Is the local State Grid Plan Co-ordinates in feet or meters?

Answer: Generally, the required work will be in feet and the State Plane Coordinates will be in feet. However, there may be infrequent occasions when the work effort must be expressed in meters.

Question 18. It appears that OE support services are required for surface avoidance and survey support. However, there is no contract line item number (CLIN) specifically addressing these services. How should the costs associated with OE services be shown?

Answer: Normally, OE services will be done in advance by other contractors. However, traditional incidental services to support surface avoidance should be included in the cost for field surveys. Any OE services in excess of that mentioned above should be included in a CLIN 006 titled Subcontracting, not elsewhere priced. This is a new CLIN to be added. The price for this CLIN should not be included in the quoter's response, but will be determined on a task order basis, as needed. Another CLIN 007 titled Other OE Services may be added for incidental work that will not be subcontracted, but will be performed by the quoter. Sub-CLINs may be added as needed under CLIN 007, but must include a clear and understandable description.

Question 19. If OE services are to be priced at this time, is the offeror required to show these capabilities as part of their bid package? If necessary, should an OE contractor be named and listed as a subcontractor?

Answer: The extent of OE services is expected to be minor. The selected quoters must meet the requirements of the DIDs. The quoter does not need to present their capabilities for OE services or identify an OE subcontractor in their response to the RFQ.

Question 20. Is the prime contractor responsible for all vegetation clearing? If so, should the associated costs be built into the terrain/vegetation multipliers?

Answer: Normally, these services will be performed by other contractors in advance. However, if these services are needed under this contract, the added CLIN for Subcontracting or Other OE Services can be used. The quoter should identify which CLIN would be used for these services.

Question 21. Beyond providing digital geophysical maps that are compatible with CEHNC's platform, what other GIS capabilities are sought under this solicitation?

Answer: No other GIS capabilities will be required.

Question 22. How do the estimated quantities shown for the CLIN factor into the pricing?

Answer: The estimated quantities are not being purchased with the issuance of a purchase order, but are simply a projection of the government's best judgement at this time of the quantity of services that will be ordered under this Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity contract. The quantities will be used in evaluating the price quotations.

Question 23. For CLIN 002d and 002g, is the unit price per target? If not, please clarify.

Answer: See response to Question #7.

Question 24. Referencing CLIN 003b and 003c, please clarify standard vs. advanced processing.

Answer: See response to Question #6.

Question 25. Referencing CLIN 004, does TBD (To Be Determined ?) indicate that pricing of this item is not required at this time?

Answer: See response to Question #5.

Question 26. Referencing CLIN 005e and 005g, how does one provide a price per monument installed without the knowledge of where the subject site is located and the accessibility of a local benchmark?

Answer: Delete CLIN 005e. These services, if necessary, will be included under either CLIN 006 Subcontracting or CLIN 007 Other OE Services. CLIN 005f (not 005g) is only the establishment of control points for navigation and reacquisition. Based on the above, there is sufficient basis for pricing CLIN 005f.

Question 27. Can we use a font smaller than 12 on the Tables?

Answer: Font size no smaller than 10 can be used on Tables.

Question 28. What is the last day for receipt and answering of questions?

Answer: Questions posed after 4:00 CST on 18 January 2000 may not be answered before the closing date of the RFQ.

Question 29. Will the closing date of the RFQ be extended?

Answer: We do not expect the closing date to be extended at this time.